IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete page 1, line 1 through page 2, line 7 of the specification and replace with the following:

-- CONTINUATION CASE

The present application is a continuation of commonly assigned and co-pending U.S. Patent Application no. 09/652.980 filed on August 31, 2000 and has the same title and inventors as the present application. This prior application is incorporated herein by reference, and priority is claimed therefrom under 35 U.S.C. §120

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is related to the following co-pending, commonly owned U.S. Patent Applications, all of which were filed on even date with the parent of the present continuation application for United States Patent and are each hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety:

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/652,644 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled ADAPTIVE DATA PREFETCH PREDICTION ALGORITHM;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/653,133 filed on August 31, 2000, now issued as United States patent number 6,456,510 on September 24, 2002 entitled UNIQUE METHOD OF REDUCING LOSSES IN CIRCUITS USING V^2 PWM CONTROL;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/652,641 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled IO SPEED AND LENGTH PROGRAMMABLE WITH BUS POPULATION;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/652,458 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled PARTITION FORMATION USING MICROPROCESSORS IN A MULTIPROCESSOR COMPUTER SYSTEM;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/944,517 filed on August 31, 2001, entitled SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR USING FUNCTION NUMBERS TO INCREASE THE COUNT OF OUTSTANDING SPLIT TRANSACTIONS;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/652,984 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING FORWARD PROGRESS AND AVOIDING STARVATION AND LIVELOCK IN A MULTIPROCESSOR COMPUTER SYSTEM;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/,653,180 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled ONLINE ADD/REMOVAL OF SERVER MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/652,494 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled AUTOMATED BACKPLANE CABLE CONNECTION IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM AND METHOD;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/652,459 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled AUTOMATED BACKPLANE CABLE CONNECTION IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM AND METHOD;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/944,515 filed on August 31, 2001, entitled PASSIVE RELEASE AVOIDANCE TECHNIQUE;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/652,985 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled COHERENT TRANSLATION LOOK-ASIDE BUFFER;

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/652,645 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled

DETERMINISTIC HARDWARE BEHAVIOR BETWEEN MULTIPLE ASYNCHRO-

NOUS CLOCK DOMAINS THROUGH THE NOVEL USE OF A PLL; and

U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/655,171 filed on August 31, 2000, entitled

VIRTUAL TIME OF YEAR CLOCK. --